

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present application claims the benefit to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/412,574 (~~Attorney Docket No. 29953-184064~~), filed September 23, 2002 and entitled “Plastic Carafe” to John Denner, Sheldon E. Yourist and Angie C. Noll; and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Design Application No. 29/176,497 (~~Attorney Docket No. 29953-184836~~, pending, filed February 25, 2003, which was issued as U.S. Design Patent No. D488060, on April 6, 2004 and entitled “Container” to Sheldon E. Yourist and U.S. Design Application No. 29/176,498 29/1764,98 (~~Attorney Docket No. 29953-184837~~, pending, filed February 25, 2003, which was issued as U.S. Design Patent No. D485181, on January 13, 2004 and entitled “Container Closure” to Sheldon E. Yourist. The above-cited applications are of common assignee to the present invention, and the contents are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] Figure 10C is a cross sectional view of the plastic carafe shown in Fig. 10B along line 10C-10C II.

Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] The closure 12, as shown in Fig. 7, is adapted to be screwed on the finish 30 of the carafe 10 12, and includes a plurality of ornamental design features 26 and 28 which mimic a similar theme to that evoked by the plurality of inwardly extending grooves 24.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] Figs. 8 and 9 illustrate alternative embodiments of the carafe 10 according to the present invention. In particular, Figs. 8 and 9 show ornamental design features 22a and 22b, respectively, different from that shown in Figs. 1-4 5. Fig. 8 shows one carafe 10 with a plurality of ornamental design features 22a 22b, while Fig. 9 3 shows another carafe 10 with a plurality of ornamental

design features 22b 22e. In both instances, the carafes 10 preferably comprise a wide-mouth blown finish 30 as shown in Figs. 1-3 5.

Please replace paragraph [0048] with the following amended paragraph:

[0048] As shown in Figs. 10A-10C, the carafe 10 can include a base 36 adapted to receive a corresponding closure. Base 36 can have standing surface 38 for contact with a horizontal surface (not shown) on which the container can rest. Base 36 can also have bottom wall 40 defining a central concavity known as the push-up. Stacking ring 42 can be interposed between standing surface 38 and bottom wall 40. Stacking ring 42 can be a continuous ring, but in another exemplary embodiment, the stacking ring 23 need not be complete and may have gaps (not shown).

Please replace paragraph [0050] with the following amended paragraph:

[0050] As shown in Fig. 10B, support ribs 46 can have an oval shape. In an alternative, support ribs 46 can have a pyramidal or trapezoidal shape. In yet an alternative exemplary embodiment, the push-up does not include support ribs 46. This and other exemplary embodiments of base 36 are shown in U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2004-0159626A1, published on August 19, 2004 10/366,574, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety and is assigned to the assignee of the present invention.

Please replace paragraph [0052] with the following amended paragraph:

[0052] In a further exemplary embodiment, closure 48 50 can be one contiguous piece (as shown in Fig. 5), such as a press-fit or screw-on lid or the like, similar to closure 12 in Figs. 1 and 7, and a protrusion can be formed as a peripheral ring around closure.

Please replace paragraph [0056] with the following amended paragraph:

[0056] This method of manufacture advantageously results in a blown finish, such as finish 30 shown in Figs. 1-6. The blown finish provides for an oriented closure to the carafe, i.e., features on the closure can be oriented to the features on the carafe. This is shown, for example, in Figs. 4, 8 and 9, wherein the ribs 28 on the closure 12 generally align with the ribs 24 on the neck 16. Other oriented features can be provided. For example, printed or embossed features on the closure can be provided to always align with similar features on the carafe. This results in added readability on a store shelf. Current manufacturing technology does not enable a satisfactorily oriented finish with an injected finish preform. The threads for the container are those formed on the preform during the first stage of the manufacturing process. In the second stage, blow molding the container, the position of the threads on the preform is random with respect to the position of the rotational mold. Orienting the finish of injected preforms requires costly machine upgrades to assure proper thread alignment. In contrast, the resulting blown finish of the present invention achieves much higher orientation tolerances as compared with the preform finishes. Particularly, the present invention enables a precise thread orientation in a single stage manufacturing process that results in the improved orientation of the closure with the container described above.